Early Morning Scuffle Leads to Felony Charges—

During the early morning hours last Thursday, our officers were called to an home in the 200 block of Spruce Avenue for an assault. Arriving officers were met by a female who was reporting a victim in this case was bleeding really badly. Officers entered the residence and followed a trail of blood to the basement where they located a 23-year-old victim laying face down on a bed. Officers observed large amounts of blood around the bed and the victim had suffered an approximately 4” wound on his back, just above his belt line. The victim was treated by Gold Cross medical staff at the scene and later airlifted to Rochester. Investigating officers learned the victim was allegedly injured during a confrontation with a 26-year-old suspect that goes by the name of Q-tip. Witnesses reported the suspect came to the residence and was yelling for the victim to come outside. The suspect then allegedly threw a rock through a window, prompting the victim to come outside and confront the suspect. The victim allegedly was wrestling with the suspect when he realized he had been stabbed. Police were called to the scene and the suspect fled on foot. Later that morning, Owatonna officers and Steele County deputies located the suspect at his residence and placed him under arrest. When the suspect was arrested, he was found to have a fresh cut on his right hand and two, large apparent blood drops on his undershirt. Andrew J. Kramer was formally charged with 2nd Degree Assault—a felony.

Drug and Gun Charges—

The Cannon River Drug & Violent Offender Task Force was involved in an investigation that led them to an Owatonna residence on Tuesday afternoon. The task force had secured a search warrant for a garage in the 200 block of E. Pearl Street and for three individuals. As a result of the warrant, Owatonna officers stopped a subject of the warrant while he was driving his vehicle. During his search, he was found to be in possession of a handgun—John Bulver, age 27, was arrested for being in possession of the weapon. During the search of the garage, presumptive methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia and guns were recovered—two of the guns were reported stolen. Bulver was formally charged with 2nd Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance, (2) counts of Possession Stolen Property and Possessing a Firearm with an Altered Serial Number. Tara Saltou-Olson, age 18, was at the scene of the warrant and subject to the search—she was found to be in possession methamphetamine and charged with 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance. The Cannon River Drug & Violent Offender Task Force is comprised of agents from law enforcement organizations in Rice County and Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). The South Central Drug Investigation Unit assisted with this case.

AED Donation—

On Tuesday, Tracy DuChene accepted an automatic external defibrillator (AED) that was donated to the department by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC). The photo below is Sgt. DuChene accepting the AED from SMSC community member and firefighter, Nathan Crooks.

Arbor Day Honorees—

The City of Owatonna honors retiring employees on Arbor Day by planting a tree on city property to recognize the retiree’s service to the community. On April 24th, our latest retirees, Sergeants Tim Hassing, Deanne vonWald & Corporal Mark Edel were honored. Pictured are Deanne and Mark planting their trees.